



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia & Kings Canyon
National Parks

47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271

559 565-3341 phone
559 565-3730 fax

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks Fire Update

For Immediate Release – July 25, 2006
Jody Lyle (559) 565-3703 or Nicole Ver (559) 565-4287

Parks Begin Mechanical Fuel Reduction Project

On July 26, the National Park Service (NPS) will begin work on three small mechanical fuel reduction projects in Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks. The projects are designed to protect people and structures from unwanted wildland fires by thinning and/or removing excess fuels.

The first project, near Wuksachi Lodge in Sequoia National Park, is five acres along the Generals Highway. This work should take one day.

The two other projects will occur in the Cedar Grove area of Kings Canyon National Park. One project is eleven acres located between Sheep Creek and Sentinel Campgrounds. The other project is four acres inside the concession housing area. This work should take two to three days.

The work will be done by a private contractor, Central Valley Forestry, out of Exeter, California. The crew will thin small trees (eight inches or less in diameter) with chainsaws and pile the material for burning in the winter.

The NPS believes that natural quiet is a resource to be protected. During these projects, the agency apologizes for the sound of mechanized equipment in the parks. To improve visitor experiences at nearby lodging facilities and campgrounds, crews will not use chainsaws until after 9:00 a.m. With a little tolerance for noise now, the NPS can complete important work that will protect people and park resources in the future.

www.nps.gov/seki/fire/fireinfo/current.htm